

SECRET

24 May 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR: General Light

SUBJECT: Base Facilities in Germany

On the basis of discussions held in your office on 24 May and after consideration both of the immediate requirement for temporary facilities for OILSTONE and of the possible longer run need for a more permanent base in Germany, it appears that [REDACTED] would be definitely preferable to [REDACTED]

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Among other operational considerations which support this conclusion are the better weather, absence of other traffic, and better approaches at [REDACTED]. I am aware, however, that the provision of support will be more difficult there than at [REDACTED] especially as no billets are now available, no navigational aids are installed and ground support equipment is not in place.

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If after further examination of the possibilities you conclude that we could start operations sooner at [REDACTED] by a margin of more than a week or ten days, our preference would be for the former since time is of the essence. Moreover, if you should decide that the burden of our activities on your resources would be far less at [REDACTED] we will gladly accept a decision in favor of that location. In any event, I need not remind you that we are eager to undertake active operations at the earliest possible date, and are quite ready to put up with the inconvenience of temporary quarters, for a time at least, in order to gain the advantages of [REDACTED] and to minimize delay.

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May I take this occasion to repeat my apologies for levying a difficult requirement upon you at such short notice. As you realize, we are the victims of circumstances beyond our control. May I also express my deep appreciation for your energetic and helpful efforts on our behalf.

Richard M. Bissell

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